

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2004/003328

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B10/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B A61M F15B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 971 939 A (COOPER ROBERT P ET AL) 26 October 1999 (1999-10-26) column 9, paragraph 2 figures 1-3	1
A	DE 202 04 363 U (HESKE NORBERT F ;HESKE THOMAS (DE)) 29 May 2002 (2002-05-29) figures 13,14	1
A	WO 96/28097 A (OOSTERHOF OKKO NANNING) 19 September 1996 (1996-09-19) figures 1,2	1
A	EP 1 074 271 A (ETHICON ENDO SURGERY INC) 7 February 2001 (2001-02-07) figure 8	1

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 August 2004

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Information on patent family members

International Application No

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